

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 52

Introduced by Assembly Members Allen and Mansoor

April 23, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 52—Relative to state beaches.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 52, as introduced, Allen. State beaches: fire rings.

This measure would recognize the tradition and cultural significance of fire rings on state beaches as part of California’s recreational and community activity, and beach lifestyle. This measure would support the protection of California’s beaches, access to those beaches, and important traditions that are integral to the state’s culture and beach lifestyle, such as fire rings.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, It is well known that visitors, tourists, and residents
2 are drawn to the California coast for personal and family recreation,
3 surfing and water sports, iconic piers, and unforgettable sunsets;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, An important beach attraction is the time-honored
6 tradition of a beach bonfire in a fire ring that California residents
7 and visitors enjoy as the sun goes down over a perfect California
8 beach evening; and

9 WHEREAS, Beach bonfires are a safe and inexpensive
10 recreational activity and are enjoyed by all the members of our
11 community, regardless of socioeconomic class; and

12 WHEREAS, Beach attractions result in optimum economic and
13 community activity, from gatherings of family and friends, beach

1 barbeques, community events, and beach sports, and much more;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Fire rings are usually large cement rings in the
4 sand to build your very own bonfire, though in places such as
5 Oceano Dunes Vehicle Recreation Area and its beach where cars
6 can drive right on the beach in Grover Beach, you can pull your
7 car onto the sand and simply set the wood out on the beach and
8 light it, or dig your own fire ring; and

9 WHEREAS, Many state beaches offer fire rings to campsite
10 guests as part of their camping fee, while some provide them for
11 free; and

12 WHEREAS, Of 108 state parks, 29 allow fire rings for beach
13 vacationers and visitors (excluding camping); and

14 WHEREAS, In Orange County, there are more than 600 fire
15 rings available on the city and state beaches for nightly bonfires,
16 a favorite activity among locals, visitors, and international tourists;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches
19 and Harbors maintains fire rings at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del
20 Rey; and

21 WHEREAS, The California Coastal Commission Staff Report
22 of October 22, 2012, at page 10 stated, “Beach fire rings are a
23 unique recreational facility for which there is no substitution.”;
24 now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
26 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature supports the protection
27 of California’s beaches, access to those beaches, and important
28 traditions that are integral to our culture and beach lifestyle, such
29 as fire rings; and be it further

30 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
31 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.